

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please amend the claims by canceling claim 12, amending claims 10, 14 and 15, and adding new claim 16, all without prejudice, as indicated on the following listing of all the claims in the present application after this Amendment:

1 – 9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) In a flash memory system having an array of non-volatile memory cells arranged in blocks as a unit of erase, pages therein as a unit of data programming and reading, and planes of a plurality of blocks that are independently accessible, a method of operation, comprising:

logically forming metablocks that individually include a block from a plurality of the planes,

sequentially receiving write commands with varying amounts of data, and

variously writing all the ~~received~~ data received with individual write commands ~~in parallel~~ either (1) sequentially into pages within individual blocks of only one of the planes or (2) in parallel into pages within two or more blocks of one of the metablocks in two or more planes, ~~in response to varying characteristics of~~ depending upon the amounts of data received with the individual host write commands.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, additionally comprising writing an indication into non-volatile memory cells at the same time as the received data that identifies the blocks into which the data are being written in parallel.

12 – 13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently amended) In a flash memory system having an array of non-volatile memory cells arranged in a plurality of blocks of memory cells as a unit of erase that are provided in a plurality of sub-arrays and multiple pages within individual blocks as units of data programming and reading, a method of operation, comprising:

logically forming metablocks that individually include blocks from a plurality of the sub-arrays,

sequentially receiving individual write commands with a number of sectors of data to be written into either a single page or into a plurality of pages,

in response to receiving the write commands with a number of sectors of data for a plurality of pages, writing all the received data in parallel into pages within a plurality of blocks of at least one of the metablocks in a plurality of the sub-arrays,

in response to receiving the write commands with a number of one or more sectors of data for only a single page of data, writing all the received data in parallel into individual pages of individual blocks of ~~the metablocks in~~ only one of the sub-arrays, and

maintaining indications in the non-volatile memory cells that are associated with the written sectors of data as to whether the individual sectors have been written in logical sequence with other sectors of data received with the same write command as the individual sector in either (1) a single block or (2) a plurality of blocks of a metablock.

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 14, wherein a file allocation ~~FAT~~ table (FAT) is stored within the non-volatile memory cells and the sectors of data for a single page of data include data of the FAT ~~table~~.

16. (New) The method of claim 14, additionally comprising storing the indications with their respective sectors of data as part of headers thereto.